

INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE BLUE GAVEL  
ANNUAL MEETING  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION  
Concord, California, October 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck Browning at 9:15 A.M. in the Walnut Room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Concord, CA, October 19, 2013.

MOTION OF SILENCE:

To Honor our members that have passed from this mortal life. We will cherish their memory. Past President Larry Foote, President; Humanitarian Foundation Bob Howe, Legal Advisor Herman Meyer.

THE PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Second Vice President Joe Dowdell.

ROLL CALL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President Chuck Browning	District 27
President Elect Gary McGrath	District 19
First Vice President Joel Kay	District 7
Second Vice President Joe Dowdell	District 8
Treasurer Marshall Nemoy	District 15
Past President Stephen Willing	District 25
Executive Secretary Mary Eiffert	District 1

Mr. President there is a quorum present confirmed by Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer.

INTRODUCTION of PAST PRESIDENTS:

Ira Nies	(1996)	District 5
Marion Hughes	(2002)	District 1
Carol Promessi	(2007)	District 19
Jerry Rudd	(2009)	District 1
Vern Bendsen	(2011)	District 19

SELF-INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES and GUESTS:

DISTRICT 1:

NWVP Mary Nye Meyers    District Director Andre Gano    IOBGHF Treasurer Jackie Evans Rudd

DISTRICT 5:

District Director Shirley Ridley    District Trustee Bill McKinney    Guest Margo McKinney

DISTRICT 7:

NCVP Tony Durieux

DISTRICT 8:

District Director Bud Higginson

DISTRICT 11:

SWVP Rosalie Davis Green District Director Julie Albright  
Past District President Gary Green

DISTRICT 14:

District Director & President Mike Billington District Vice President Margo Bottari  
Past SWVP Larry Draper District Secretary Susan West

DISTRICT 15:

US Sailing Rep. Bill Thayer Past District President Eileen VanWinkle Member Gary S. Hall  
Int'l Recording Secretary Marybeth Thayer IOBGA Treasurer Audrey Hall

DISTRICT 16:

Protocol Officer Marsha Landreth

DISTRICT 19:

District Director Joan Marsh-Hardy District President John Anthony  
District Vice President M. Estelle McGrath District Treasurer Roger Beebe  
Past District Director Phil Promessi Member Linda Bendsen Member Lucy Anthony  
Member Erich Schoenwisner Member Michael Herrick Member Susan Meyer

DISTRICT 27:

NEVP Dave Grove

Second Vice President Joe Dowdell said it was decided that at the Annual Meeting we were going to call a roll call of the Directors. We should have a quorum for the vote.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said the Executive Committee had already been called for a quorum. They each have 1 vote each. The Past Presidents each had 1 vote, those attending were, Ira Nies, Marion Hughes, Carol Promessi, Jerry Rudd and Vern Bendsen. The Area Vice Presidents present at the meeting each have 1 vote, those attending were, NWVP Mary Nye Meyers, NCVP Tony Durieux, NEVP Dave Grove and SWVP Rosalie Davis Green.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy then proceeded to call each District for the District Director or Alternate District Directors for their vote count.

Roll call was taken for each District present and the vote count for all was 74 including the Executive Committee, Past Presidents and Area Vice Presidents, there was a quorum.

APPROVAL of THE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 20, 2012:

The motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from October 20, 2012.  
Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DURING THE PAST YEAR:

The motion was made and seconded to accept the actions of the Executive Committee during the pass year. Motion passed.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### TREASURER MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

The financial statements in this report are as of September 30, 2013 and results of operations for the nine months then ended.

The income for 2013 to date is greater than last year. The major areas of savings resulted from clerical expenses and travel. Changes implemented last year, such as sending THE BLUE GAVEL LOG by email continued to provide significant savings.

International Operations Center: Clerical services were lower than budgeted. The savings were achieved by more accurate dues transmitted and more efficiency producing membership cards.

Executive Committee: The committee's expenses consist mainly of travel. Due to illness of two persons the budget was lower this year.

Area Vice Presidents: Presently this activity is lower than budgeted. This could be the expenses have not been submitted to the I.O.C. yet. Therefore the year-end results may differ significantly.

Annual Meeting: Some expenses take place before September 30 but most will take place in late October. Presently the activity is lower than budget and less than last year.

The BLUE GAVEL LOG: This year the cost to produce the BLUE GAVEL LOG and the LIGHHOUSE was lower than last year.

##### Membership Statistics:

The membership statistics attached to this report was prepared as of August 1, 2013, the date mandated By the bylaws for determining the number of votes allotted to each district.

##### 2014 Budget:

A budget for 2014 has been mailed to all delegates to the Annual Meeting known to the I.O.C. The 2014 budget contemplates activity levels similar to 2013. The only difference will be a meeting in August instead of February. Eliminating the August meeting three years ago meant the executive committee could not meet and confer with the members in the North Central and Northeastern areas. Henceforth we will have regional meetings in February and August in alternating years.

##### International Operation Center:

This year we issued plastic membership cards for the first time. We have established a contest to select the photo to be used on 2014 membership cards. The Executive Committee has decided on a picture to be uses in 2014.

I thank all the district treasurers for their good work this year.

All members are welcome to contact my office with any question about IOBG. We are here to assist all members.

Report Submitted.

##### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

A few comments first based on the IOBG History we heard from Marshall Nemoy yesterday. I'm from District 8 and have been an IOBG Member since 1983.

I went to a 2008 District 8 Regional Meeting and it seems like a regular District 8 meeting, nothing much was said, but in December of 2008 the entire Board resigns.

As I understood it District 8 brought to the Annual Meeting in 2008 a motion before the membership for one vote for 50 members and it was tabled and never voted on at the Seattle meeting. A few months later it was changed to 1 vote for 25 members.

Also, District 9 had a member that had been nominated for an Office and ready to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Another name was nominated from the floor and was voted in.

This action hurt us with District 9. In 2010 the nomination rules were changed. If you want to nominate from the floor you have to get 3, 4 or 5 Chapters to sign a petition to send to the Nominating Committee 30 days after the slate comes out and at the Annual Meeting you will know if there is more than one name that is nominated.

Both these actions hurt us with District 8 and 9 and we have learned from them.

Thru the years we have changed our Bylaws to bring us up to date with the Membership.

The Board of Directors is the governing body of IOBG, that is in the Bylaws and it is in the Procedures Manual. You can get them off the Website. What is the Executive Committee doing, that's there too. The Executive Committee runs the affairs in between the Annual Meetings. We meet 2 or 3 times a year and take care of business. But (an important but) at this Annual Meeting whatever the Executive Committee has done is subject to review and approval of the Board at the Annual Meeting. There was a motion to approve everything the Executive Committee did and it was passed and it is done that way every year at the Annual meeting. But you have to realize what you are doing is approving what we have done three meetings before.

So you approve the motion but do you know what the Executive Committee did?

We use to print the minutes of each meeting in THE LOG but it got too expensive so we took them out. We are now on line so we could put the minutes back in. The minutes should be read by all members, so all members will know what the Executive Committee is doing. I think there is some support for that.

You can't have complete openness because there is a matter of policy and law suits (if any are coming). The Executive Committee should have open meetings but sometimes the Executive Committee has to go into Executive Session to make personnel decisions and something's that are very sensitive.

Now for my report, my responsibility is assisting the Area Vice Presidents west of the Mississippi River and with NWVP Mary Nye Meyers and SWVP Rosalie Davis Green there everything is going great.

Past President Jerry Rudd said one of his jobs was liaison between IOBGHF and the Executive Board.

Second Vice President Joe Dowdell responded by saying he was told of that earlier but it is not in the Bylaws of 2010 written by Past President Vern Bendsen and thought Vern Bendsen was the Liaison Officer for IOBGHF. I know I'm the liaison Office for IOBGA.

Just went to District 8 installation for 2014 Officers and everything is going great there now, we have two Regional Meetings in Florida and that has really helped the District.

I wasn't saying not to go to Portland, I support Portland; but now that we are only having three meetings a year we want to be sure we go to every Region possible, so maybe go to Portland every other year.

#### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

We have been able to accomplish many things during 2013, but there is more that has to be done. We still need to address the issues of breaks in communication from the AVPs to the members of the IOBG and the members, in general. I have heard from too many members from many of the eastern districts that are frustrated by the lack of a response or a proper one from their presidents, district AVP. Many members do not feel comfortable communicating with the IOBG members. However I try to encourage the discussions, I do this by answering questions like "what has/does the Gavel do for me?" and "why I decided to become a member of the Executive Committee. I have no problem communicating my feeling.

Many of the district directors and AVPs have been unable to attend meetings that are held across the country, including the Annual Meeting, for variety of reasons. In this electronic age, we should be able to overcome this issue. I feel that we need to address this problem, as I believe there are ways, electronically, to handle it, successfully.

I feel we publish two great documents informing members of the happenings in the organization. It is disheartening to me that so few members who have access to the Internet click on the IOBG web site. At the summer District 7 Board Meeting, I asked for a show of hands of those who have accessed the web site and read "The Lighthouse" and I was pleasantly surprised that most have done so. In discussion with members from other districts, this is not necessarily so.

Lastly, I continue to be indebted to those who hold the Gavel to be an integral part of their lives. Their involvement has given me the confidence in my endeavors. Thank you very much.

In 2014 the Annual Meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio at the Hilton Beachwood Double Tree Inn, October 16, 17 and 18<sup>th</sup>. I wish to invite everyone in this room and your friends, relatives and other members of the Gavel to come to Cleveland in the month of October.

Report Submitted.

Past President Stephen Willing asked First Vice President Joel Kay to stay for an announcement.

Past President Stephen Willing said it is my pleasure at this time on behalf of District 25 to present you with a check for your convention.

First Vice President Joel Kay responded with "Thank you very much".

#### PRESIDENT ELECT GARY McGRATH REPORT:

My job is to advise you of next year's Regional Meetings and as you have heard we have changed having a Winter Meeting every year, we will be alternating Winter and Summer Regional Meeting. This coming year will be the Summer Meeting which will be held in Charleston, SC, August 14<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>. We will have more information by the June Meeting and in THE LOG and the LIGHTHOUSE.

#### PAST PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

I'll leave you with the four most famous words in Yacht Club history "When I was Commodore"

Thank you. End of report.

Report Submitted.

#### PRESIDENT CHUCK BROWNING REPORT:

This has been another working year for all of our IOBG Officers at International, District and at the Chapters. We have worked hard to improve our communications upward and downward from members to officers.

I think we have accomplished a lot this year by using the Lighthouse Newsletter and improving our ability to use emails when needed. It has been a tough time at chapter yacht clubs their membership has suffered because of the economy, and when they have membership problems it affects our membership in the IOBG also.

This year we need to make a commitment to assist with membership at all levels.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, I want to thank all of you for your patients and support this year. Since I have been associated with the Blue Gavel I have met and have made many good friends whom I will cherish in years to come. Thank you for a great year.

Report Submitted.

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARY EIFFET REPORT:

It seems that my report get shorter every year.

Again there was only one new charter approved. District 19, Delta Bayliner Club.

I am still waiting to hear from some of you that your charter has been lost or destroyed. Please let me know so I can reissue the charter for you to post in your clubhouse.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as Executive Secretary. And I look forward to serving yet another year. One of these years I may have to retire.  
Report Submitted.

Second Vice President Joe Dowdell said the Executive Committee wears two hats, IOBG and Trustee for IOBGHF. The job in IOBGHF is to elect the IOBGHF Board and pass the IOBGHF Bylaws. IOBGHF has presented to the IOBG Executive Committee a list of new names for the IOBG Board to vote on.

#### AREA VICE PRESIDENTS and DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS:

##### a. NORTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

I was trying to think of something for my report and realized my last report was in June. I then went into the hospital for cancer and pre-cancer surgery on my larynx, throat, esophagus and stomach. I've never smoked in my life but I did suffer with acid reflux. So if you're suffering with acid reflux...please get it checked out before it's too late. I'm getting better every day.

So as far as my report goes...I was able to attend the District 1 (Washington) Fall Change of Watch on September 21<sup>st</sup> but not District 5's (Oregon) Change of Watch which was on the very same day. I would like to thank both District 1 and District 5 Directors for being here today and giving their reports because I know that at least they can remember what has happened in the last three months.

Report Submitted.

##### DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR ANDRE GANO REPORT:

District 1 started with our Spring weekend meeting held at Clover Island Yacht Club in Kennewick, WA with 3 new members being sworn in. One of the highlights was chartered bus trip to a few of the local wineries.

On May 4<sup>th</sup> the Seattle Yacht Club hosted Opening Day for the boating season. Past District 1 President Bob Weber provide his yacht as the IOBG flag ship carrying District 1's officers on the annual parade of boats through Lake Washington.

July 20<sup>th</sup> District 1 held our annual summer picnic hosted by the Kingston Cove Yacht Club.

Change of Watch held at Des Moines Yacht Clubs and there were 3 new members sworn in on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

In summary District 1 had a successful year and will continue to grow in the years to come.

Report Submitted.

##### DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR BILL McKINNEY REPORT:

2013 has been a good year for District 5 with membership remaining at about 50 members and activities continuing all year long including monthly board meetings.

In April we held the Annual Hadley Landing Cleanup Cruise. In the past six years we have helped clean and repair the picnic area and the docks.

The IOBG Regional Meeting was held linked with the Portland Royal Rosarians Rose Festival. Over thirty IOBG members from across the country attended the Royal Rosarian Grand Ball event.

The Annual Change of Watch Dinner Meeting held at the Columbia River Yacht Club rounded out the year with the election of new officers. District 5 has continued to raise money for the local Sea Scouts, The Daughters of Neptune and the IOBG Humanitarian Foundation.

At this meeting it was announced that the District 5 Auxiliary will be restored after being inactive for many years.

Report Submitted

b. SOUTHWESTERN VICE PRESIDENT ROSALIE DAVIS GREEN REPORT:

Serving as the area vice president has been enjoyable and interesting. I visited seven out of eight districts. I was unable to visit Hawaii. I visited districts in the following ways: attending opening day's ceremonies and supporting the induction of new IOBG members, attending district events.

I held a Southern California roundtable discussion hosted by District 21. A variety of topics were discussed including: membership retention, partnering with other groups for service and philanthropy and communication and choosing one action for the year. People indicated they like a calendar of activities for the year, a newsletter and want all their information online. It is very important to use a variety of approaches to reach all our members. It is also important to note that progress takes effort and time.

I will report on 3 districts that are not represented at this meeting.

DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR BRUCE LEDEIRA REPORT:

District 6 continued their most popular activities: their wounded warrior project taking them out on the water and beach barbeque, induction of new members and change of watch.

DISTRICT 10 DIRECTOR LaVON PLUMLEE REPORT:

District 10 is thriving. They have monthly board meetings to plan the monthly activities. They have a newsletter and a web site informing their members of the social and boating activities. They support Long Beach, CA charity regatta and a fashion show with proceeds going to IOBGHF.

DISTRICT 21 DIRECTOR LEO VETOUNI REPORT:

District 21 with several new board members is working hard to rebuild their district. I now hear enthusiasm and hope instead of frustration.

You will now hear directly for district directors or alternate directors 11,14,15,16 and 19.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 11 DIRECTOR JULIE ALBRIGHT & PRESIDENT SHERRY BARONE REPORT:

Given by District Director Julie Alright

It's been a great year for District 11: We have 82 members for this year, up from a total of 64 last year.

We had a number of activities this year, starting with our Wine Tasting Event at the Port Royal Yacht Club. A wine auction with proceeds going King Harbor Youth Foundation.

We had our 5 Windy Q BBQs and 5 Fridays night's sundowner races this summer. The Windy Qs are our BBQ held at Del Ray Yacht Club feature a speaker series on topic ranging from coastal cruising to the activities of our local Sheriff's Dept, in the Marina.

The Highlight of District 11 activity was our group trip to the America's Cup in San Francisco to watch the first week-end of the race with our members, friends, and colleagues. Including in the group were our new friends Craig Edwards and 3 other sailors from District 75 in Auckland, New Zealand.

Our final social events for the year will be a brunch and tour of the LAX USO on October 25, following by installation brunch and a general membership meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Outreach and Communications:

IOBG 11 continues to expand its presence in social media: We have opened a twitter account (Follow us at @BlueGavel\_11). We already have a Facebook page where we list events and keep communication going with our group.

#### Philanthropy:

We have this year continues to support Junior Sailing scholarships in both the Marina del Rey and King Harbors. We have donated sailing scholarships to both the Santa Monica Bay Sailing foundation for youth sailing and Del Rey Youth Foundation for their junior sailing program.

#### Goals:

Going forward we want to built on our communication with members – and may appoint a Communications Director to do so to create a quarterly newsletter.

We will continue to explore new avenues for our members to socialize and remain connected to IOBG.  
Report Submitted.

#### DISTRICT 14 DIRECTOR MIKE BILLINGTON REPORT:

District 14 members are coming to the IOBG Annual Installation to see our good friend Gary McGrath installed as President of IOBG and making plans for 2014.

We will be joining District 19 for both our Change of Watch ceremony at the Pittsburg Yacht Club.

We are looking forward with our new Board and members planning different events in the coming year.

District 14 got together and had a good time on the Pacific Inter-Club Boat Association committee boat for the San Francisco Opening Day on the Bay.

District 14 is planning a cruise on the Jeremiah O'Brian ship which is a restored World War II liberty ship.

The Executive Committee is investigating providing a scholarship to allow a youth to be able to join in one of the many youth sailing programs offered around the Bay.

As with all Districts we need to work hard on membership retention and getting new members.

Report Submitted.

President Chuck Browning announced a 10 minutes break at 9:40 A.M.

President Chuck Browning resumed the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

#### DISTRICT 15 DIRECTOR MICHELLE WOLD REPORT: Given by Alternate District Director Bill Thayer

Greeting from District 15 we have had a successful year.

This year we concentrated on making the activities of our district more relevant to our members. We welcomed new members at our District Vice President Kathy Smith and her husband Gary's home.

Our activities this year included hosting the annual Yacht Club Management Seminar held at Mission Bay Yacht Club. We join Make-A-Wish race held in Coronado, CA and raised funds for the Foundation. Working to raise money in support of Silver Gate's Tuna Challenge, it was postponed this year; we still raised money for next year. A member appreciation party was held at the home of Michele and Dick Wold.

Our new officers have been installed at the Change of Watch Dinner, October 5<sup>th</sup>. We're looking forward to another successful year.

Report Submitted.



DISTRICT 16 ALTERNATE DIRECTOR MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT:

District 16 kicked off the year with a change of watch breakfast hosed by Harbour Island Yacht Club.

The Anacapa Yacht Club Chapter hosted a Mardi Gras party. Anacapa Yacht Club generously donated the tip jar to the IOBGHF.

Opening Day weekend in Channel Islands and Ventura Harbors is always awe-inspiring.

The membership heard a presentation given by the Director of Volunteers at the Maritime Museum in May. District 16 is committed to manning an educational exhibit in the Maritime Museum's new facility.

In June hosted by Ventura Yacht Club was our annual BBQ.

In July, Anacapa Yacht Club invited 105 Disabled Vets and their guests for a day on the water. Afterwards everyone enjoy a picnic back at the club.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 19 DIRECTOR JOAN MARSH HARDY REPORT:

In July, a Seafood Broil dinner held at Pittsburg Yacht Club was a highly successful fundraiser for President Gary McGrath.

August found many at the annual barbecue that has been hosted by IOBG Legal Officer Herman Meyer and his wife District 19 Auxiliary President Sue Meyer at their central valley ranch known as Meyer Haven. This year was a more subdued event since P/C Herman Meyer had past away recently and also remembered at this time was IOBG Past President Larry Foote. The two were pivotal members of District 19 for many years.

In September John and Lucy Anthony hosted a Lobster dinner at the Bridge Marina Yacht Club to raise funds for Gary McGrath convention. Officers for 2014 were elected at this time and the change of watch is scheduled on November 2, 2013. We are pleased that our membership has grown.

It is our privilege and pleasure to welcome IOBG members from all over and to all our colleagues to the installation of Gary McGrath as IOBG President and all of the board and officers of the IOBG, the Auxiliary and Humanitarian Foundation.

The Blue Gavel California Delta District 19 wishes you safe boating and safe travels.

Report Submitted.

c. NORTH CENTRAL VICE PRESIDENT TONY DURIEUX REPORT:

North Central Districts again found the "How" to continued growth and interest in the IOBG. Pride, honor in the doing, and passing this understanding on to the recently eligible Past Commodores is how it's done.

Keeping the districts' chapters active and involved provides the incentive to join this most prestigious fraternity. As I believe, and have said in the past, Blue gavel membership unofficially elevates one to the position of an ambassador to the boating community. When reading the reports of North Central area districts, a common thread will become apparent. When circumstances provide opportunity, our gavel chapters jump in to offer help and if it puts the Gavel in a favorable position it becomes a win, win situation.

Sometimes it calls for the District to make its own opportunity. They set district goals and back chapter projects. They plan District wide social activities and provide the proper setting for the get together. The interaction with current gavel members and current commodores strengthens the bond and desire to join our family.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR MARK VADAJ REPORT: Given by NCVP Tony Durieux

It has been an outstanding year once again for District 7. This year at the IOBG Change of Watch and Annual Meeting I will be presenting several suggestions to enhance your membership.

A few notable events this season for District 7. IOBG hosted a Cocktail Party at the GOBA Huron Rendezvous in June. District 7 participated in escorting the Tall Ships in Cleveland Harbor during the July 4<sup>th</sup> and also the 1812 Battle reenactment at Put-in-Bay in September. In August joined together with District 9 and 25 to salute the New ILYA Commodore Kris Miller and Lady Reni. Although summer Boating Season is coming to an end here on the North Coast, the year for IOBG is just ramping up for the start of a new year. I extend a personal invitation to all IOBG Members to become more involved whether at the Chapter level or District level and even the International level. Please see the District 7 Website at [www.iobgdistrict7.com](http://www.iobgdistrict7.com).

Without you and your participation we are just ordinary boaters.

Through your most general contributions we are able to support IOBG Humanitarian Foundation on much needed and well deserved humanitarian hardships. One sad note was the passing of the Humanitarian Foundation CEO Robert Howe. He will be missed greatly.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 9 DIRECTOR STEPHEN BARRY REPORT: Given by NCVP Tony Durieux

District 9 has been working through a slack period and is ready to emerge energized again. We just had our Change of Watch and looking forward to a busy year in 2014.

We are currently in the midst of our Ohio State - U of Michigan fundraiser. These funds feed into our humanitarian activities and members get excited about this every year.

Members have been active in their local clubs where they have been instrumental in projects and are ready to bring that enthusiasm and interest to the district level.

We have recently been made aware of one club calling them selves Future Past Commodores. This is exciting to hear and we need to encourage and support as they move into the Commodore role.

We will be working with districts 7 and 25 in December, once again hosting a pizza buffet at the ILYC fall meeting.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 25 PRESIDENT GREG LOWE REPORT: Given by Past President Stephen Willing

District Director Bill Woods was feeling a bit under the weather and come to find out it is more serious that first thought. I am reading the report written by President Greg Lowe for District Director Bill Woods.

District 25 had a summer Meet-and-Greet/Membership drive and by hosting events like this we have been able to increase our membership.

We support Blue Gavel at the AYC Regatta Poker Runs and the ILYA Blue Gavel reception at Put-in-Bay. District 25 Chapter Great Lakes Steel Boat Club joined GLSBC in hosting a dinner.

IOBG Auxiliary had two sell-out events, the Spring Pasta and Wine Tasting hosted by President Arlene LaFehr and her team.

Change of Watch and General Membership was held in September.  
Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 23: No Report.

d. NORTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT DAVE GROVE REPORT:

I am from the East Coast and I will be the representative for Districts 3, 12, 20, 22 and 27.

DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR LEWIS W. SMITH REPORT: Given by NEVP Dave Grove

With the addition of several new officers has created a heightened level of enthusiasm in District 3. We held a summer event aboard the Miss Buffalo cruise boat with dinner aboard with a great turn out of the membership. A holiday dinner dance is being planned.

Our District continues to support the Excalibur Foundation and also made a donation to the Blue Gavel Humanitarian Fund.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 12 DIRECTOR VINCE J. CORE REPORT: Given by NEVP Dave Grove

Following Super Storm Sandy the motto for the state of New Jersey was "Recover and Rebuilt". The 5 yacht clubs that make up District 12 are all located on Long Beach Island and all sustained significant damage resulting from the flooding associated with the hurricane.

In spite of the extensive damage to all of the clubs, each of the clubs was able to meet the challenge of having their clubs up and running for their commissioning ceremonies on Memorial Day weekend. While considerable work remained to be completed over the summer months, junior waterfront programs began on schedule, inter-club junior races, senior club racing, local state and national regattas planned for 2013 were on schedule. Social events on the other hand were the most adversely effected, things aren't quite back to normal as yet at the club level but significant progress has been made.

This year The Friends of Southern Sailing Foundation decided not to have any fundraising events because the focus is on "restore and rebuilt". Simply put peoples priorities were on their homes, business and clubs. However each of the clubs held fundraisers to offset the cost of restoring their clubs.

On behalf of the past commodores of District 12, I want to thank the officers of the Blue Gavel for allowing me to present my report dealing with our situation at the Regional Meeting in Venice, Florida. Our members were especially grateful for having received their membership cards several months ago.

Report Submitted.

DISRICT 26 PRESIDENT ELIOT LEVINE REPORT: Given by NEVP Dave Grove

I am presenting a certificate (which I sent a copy to you) to all Huntington Yacht Club members and sponsors of the HYC Veterans Appreciation Day who helped in their individual ways with the events as well as to some employees of HYC who assisted with our successful outing, a breakfast and a sail on Huntington Harbor. Possibly this certificate could be sent to the International and all members of IOBG and they could provide me with an evaluation of their own event for further event planning.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 26 DIRECTOR ERNIE ODIERNA REPORT: Given by NEVP Dave Grove

The Harlem and Huguenot Clubs had their Vet's Outings with over 150 Vets, families and Club Members participating.

I t has been difficult to get our members to pay 2013 dues due to last's Sandy event.

We try to hold a dinner dance event but because of financial considerations we could not get the event off the ground. Our Clubs are all still re-coupling from last year's Sandy and along with general struggle to maintain membership.

I am attaching a copy of The Huntington's Certificate of Appreciation for their Vet's outing.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 27 DIRECTOR RUSS BOWER REPORT: Given by NEVP Dave Grove

District 27 is running a project to raise money to be donated to the WOUNDED WARRIORS program. Bush River Yacht Club is running this project because we are having a hard time getting the member clubs of District 27 to do anything.

We are having a hard time keeping members as well as getting new members. The ones we have are not very active.

Report Submitted.

e. SOUTHEASTERN VICE PRESIDENT LENWORTH GORDON REPORT: Absent. No Report.

DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR BUD HIGGINSON REPORT:

District 8 had an exciting year with hosting of IOBG Winter Regional Meeting by the Venice Yacht Club. Our Gulf Stream publication is now online and an Electronic Membership Directory is in the final stages of completion with participation from Mary Nye Meyers and President Elect Chuck Ranson.

During the year District 8 conducted a survey of Chapter's activities which benefit their respective Clubs. Approximately 75% of the Chapters participated with activities ranging from the tradition events such as Change of Watch and Blessing of the Fleet to Social events i.e. Valentines Dinners and fund raising such as raffles, bilge sales and auctions. The next step will be to post those activities on District 8 website, so that activity ideas will be available to all.

In our October 2013 Annual Meeting, IOBG Second Vice President Joe Dowdell did the honors of swearing in 2013 District 8 new Officers.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 50 DIRECTOR MARK J. VADAJ REPORT: Given by First Vice President Joel Kay

I'm unable to be at the meeting this year, but it has been an outstanding year once again for District 50. Some suggestions I have will be presented at the meeting to enhance our membership.

This past year I have been able to reach a few more of our District 50 Members through email, mail and phone. Join us on Face book " International Order of the Blue Gavel 50 " Also I recommend viewing IOBG at [www.iobg.org](http://www.iobg.org) for details on international events and addition information.

Earlier this year I spoke about the Humanitarian Foundation and through your most generous contributions we are able to support much needed hardships.

Report Submitted.

DISTRICT 51 DIRECTOR WALT KADYK REPORT: Given by Second Vice President Joe Dowdell

No new activity to report. I will remain vigilant for new members.

Report Submitted.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

HISTORIAN ART THEOBALD REPORT: Not Present.

LEGAL OFFICER GEORGE KNIES REPORT: Not Present.

LOG EDITOR in CHIEF MARY NYE MEYERS REPORT:

Deadline for THE LOG is November 2, 2013.

PROTOCOL OFFICER MARSHA LANDRETH REPORT:

Be sure to get a copy of the Parliamentary Procedure papers I have brought.  
Report Submitted.

RECORDING SECRETARY MARYBETH THAYER REPORT: No Report.

SERGEANT AT ARMS BILL THAYER REPORT: No Report.

President Elect Gary McGrath announced that he had asked Phil Promessi to be the Education Officer for 2014. Then ask for a vote on it. None was needed, appointed Officers are done by the President each year.

REPRESENTATIVES:

AUXILIARY LIAISON JOE DOWDELL REPORT:

Ask President Elect Deanna Tomei to make the report for IOBGA.

President Chuck Browning continued the meeting while IOBGA President Elect Deanna Tomei is informed to make the IOBGA presentation.

BOAT US MARSHALL NEMOY REPORT:

We have a reminder in THE LOG giving the IOBG group number and remember we get ½ off on their membership card showing our IOBG Card, be sure to show our card to them. They are like the Boating Club of the Auto World.

HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

Last June the Executive Committee amended the IOBGHF Bylaws. The Executive Committee as of this morning elected five new IOBGHF Officers.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy said that in the break he has had a lot of questions about IOBG and IOBGHF and explained a little of the history that he received from IOBGHF first Legal Office and IOBG Past President Tom Elmer. The goal of IOBG was to have a separate entity for contributions made according to IRS 501(c) (3) using IOBG name and Logo. It was the desire of those forming the organization back in 1992 that IOBG have some involvement itself to guarantee IOBG name and Logo would never be besmirched in anyway but beyond that, they didn't want IOBG to have any activity to influence the operation of IOBGHF themselves and one of the things IRS watches very carefully if there is any interaction between key elements. IOBG Executive Committee can only vote on the people who want to be directors and they can vote on any amendment to the IOBGHF By Laws if necessary. The rest is up to the Directors of IOBGHF to elect their Officers and conduct their operations.

Second Vice President Joe Dowdell announced that IOBGA President Renee Gordon is not here today and introduce President Elect Deanna Tomei for IOBGA report.

IOBGA PRESIDENT ELECT DEANNA TOMEI REPORT:

We had a very good workshop yesterday, we did some business and made plans for next year. We have a slate of Officers to be inducted tonight, I have decided not to go up the chairs, so at this time I would like to introduce out new President June Thacker.

IOBGA PRESIDENT JUNE THACKER REPORT:

Very happy to be the new President of IOBGA and we will be right here when you need us.

Past President Vern Bendsen wanted to know how many people at this meeting were members of IOBGA and why they weren't.

Staff Commodore Jackie Rudd explained that to be a member of IOBGA your spouse had to be a member of the main body – IOBG.

NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION DAVE KUTZ REPORT: Not Here. No Report.

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY LARRY DRAPER REPORT: No Report.

US SAILING ASSOCIATION BILL THAYER REPORT:

US Sailing's next One Design Program Symposium will take place at the Sailing Leadership forum 2014.

The US Sailing family membership option is a great way to get you family involved in US Sailing events and programs. The family membership allows up to six family members to your plan, no need to pay for an individual membership for each.

US Sailing West Coast Tour began July 11 at the Olympic Day, hosted by Newport Harbor Yacht Club in conjunction with the So Cal Junior Olympic Sailing festival in Newport Beach, California.  
Report Submitted.

MEMBERSHIP & PUBLIC RELATIONS PRESIDENT ELECT GARY MCGRATH REPORT:

No report on Public Relations. There is no new application for membership this year.

President Chuck Browning announced a lunch break at 12:00 P.M.

President Chuck Browning resumes the meeting at 1:15 P.M.

President Chuck Browning called on IOBGHF President Ira Nies

IOBGHF PRESIDENT IRA NIES REPORT:

IOBGHF President Ira Nies announced that the IOBGHF would be accepting donations for the Foundation at this time along with Treasurer Jackie Evans Rudd.

All donations were greatly appreciated.

President Elect Gary McGrath announced at this time two new appointed Officers.

Past President Vern Bendsen has volunteered to be the liaison Officers for the Past Commodores and the Executive Board.

District 11 Member Gary Green has volunteered to be the representative for National Boating Federation.

COMMITTEES:

BY-LAWS and POLICY MANUAL PAST PRESIDENT VERN BENDSEN REPORT:

No report unless there is a question. No questions from the floor.

ANNUAL MEETING PRESIDENT ELECT GARY McGRATH REPORT:

No report unless there is a question from the floor. No questions from the floor.

NOMINATING PAST PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

The nominees have already been posted by Bylaws deadline.

The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President and the Senior Past President, the President and two (2) IOBG members who are not officers in any Blue Gavel Chapter or District.

One member from East of the Mississippi River and the other member shall be from West of the Mississippi River for two (2) years each alternating. The IOBG member from the West has moved to Florida with one more year to serve, so my understanding is that from the West of the Mississippi River Eileen VanWinkle will served the remaining one (1) year.

ANNUAL REVIEW PAST PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

Audit review has been completed and everything is in order.

FINANCE PAST PRESIDENT STEPHEN WILLING REPORT:

No irregularities or difficulty of any kind.

ELECTIONS FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JOEL KAY REPORT:

Will be passing out the ballots to those who can vote and proceed accordingly.

Past President Vern Bendsen asked for unanimous vote for the slate of Officers.

A discussion followed and Protocol Officer Marsha Landreth explained why that couldn't be taken.

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy will hand out the ballots. Second Vice President Joel Kay announced that Past President Carol Promessi and Protocol Officer Marsha Landreth will count the votes.

NEW BUSINESS:

2014 BUDGET:

Treasurer Marshall Nemoy asked if there was any questions about the 2014 budget. None from the floor.

The motion was made and accepted to the 2014 Budget. Motion passed.

CHAPTER APPLICATIONS: None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

President Chuck Browning called on First Vice President Joel Kay to present the vote.

First Vice President Joel Kay announced the slate is accepted. That included four (4) no votes for SEVP office.

President Chuck Browning announced that everyone as been confirmed and for the Good of the Order I would like to turn the gavel over to International Order of the Blue Gavel President Gary McGrath.

President Gary McGrath accepted the gavel.

Past President Marion Hughes called for a motion to destroy the ballots.

President Gary McGrath said the Protocol Officer said in case there a question on the vote the ballots should be sealed and kept for a reasonable length of time.

President Gary McGrath said we have to increase our membership and to get our younger members more involved. Part of our problem here in this district we are recycling our old Commodores. We need to push to get some newer members and younger.

President Gary McGrath asked if anyone has anything for the Good of the Order.

IOBGHF President Ira Nies said he had short report from the Humanitarian Foundation.

IOBGHF President Ira Nies said Thank You to President Chuck Browning and his group for their assistance at this time and congratulation to the new Board. The new Board consists of Art Theobald, Estella McGrath, Anthony Caruso, Jackie Evens Rudd and myself. We have a list of new people for your approval to help us runs the organization.

We want your support and any ideas to help us raise funds for IOBGHF.  
Thank you.

President Gary McGrath said he has received the list and will take it to the Board and get back in a week.

President Gary McGrath then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded. Motion was passed at 1:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marybeth Thayer  
Recording Secretary